



# JSEC Newsletter

December 2011

Glendive Job Service ♦ 211 South Kendrick

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*Contact Job Service for all your business needs.*

## 2011 JSEC Career Fair a Success

More than 200 high school students from Glendive, Richey and Wibaux converged on the Dawson County High School gymnasium to visit with representatives from 21 different businesses at the 2011 JSEC Career Fair. On November 2<sup>nd</sup>, students had the opportunity to speak with employers, colleges, and military recruiters about their future and the steps they need to take to prepare for careers in a wide range of local and area occupations.

Once again, the JSEC offered a Career Search Activity for the students to help facilitate interaction with the businesses. Business representatives appreciated the activity, indicating that it

helped initiate interaction with the students. As an incentive for the students, each one that completed the activity was entered in a drawing for a Kindle Touch E-Reader. The winners were Olivia Miske from Wibaux and Carly Farr from Glendive.

Representatives were especially pleased with this year's event, according to surveys returned by participants. Of those responding, all said they would attend another career fair in the future. Many offered praise of the event as a way to connect with high school students and pique their interest in local careers. One participant declared "I was tickled with the turnout and the

students asked good questions." Another echoed that sentiment, saying that the event helped to facilitate "tons of questions and good interaction." Yet another expressed that the career fair is a "great way to look for new hires."

The JSEC wishes to thank those businesses that participated in this year's career fair and all those who contributed to its success. If your business has not participated in past career fairs, please consider this year's positive reviews and think seriously about attending the next career fair. It's a great way to introduce and promote your business' unique opportunities to the future workforce.



Barb Stairs-JSEC, Carly Farr, Tim Wall-JSEC, Darla Handran-JSEC Coord.



Olivia Miske & Darla Handran-JSEC Coordinator

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## JSEC Offers Scholarships

The Glendive JSEC is once again offering scholarships of \$500 to graduating seniors, Class of 2012, who intend to further their education at Dawson Community College fall semester following graduation. Winning applications will automatically be submitted for consideration at the state level, to the Montana State Employer Council,

which offers the annual \$500 Fred Unmack Memorial Scholarship.

After the holiday break, High School seniors should contact their Guidance Counselor for the specifics. Deadline is March 15, 2012.

## New Employment Initiative for Veterans

The Gold Card provides unemployed post-9/11 era veterans with the intensive and follow-up services they need to succeed in today's job market. The Gold Card initiative is a joint effort of the Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration (ETA) and the Veterans' Employment and Training Services (VETS).

An eligible veteran can present the Gold Card at his/her local One-Stop Center (Job Service) to receive en-

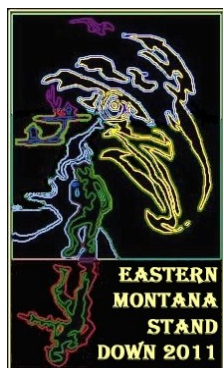
hanced intensive services. The enhanced in-person services available for Gold Card holders may include: Job readiness assessment, including interviews and testing; Development of an Individual Development Plan (IDP); Career Guidance through group or individual counseling that helps veterans in making training and career decisions; Provision of labor market, occupational, and skills transferability information that inform educational, training, and occupational decisions; Referral to job banks, job por-

tals, and job openings; Referral to employers and registered apprenticeship sponsors; Referral to training by WIA-funded or third party service providers; and Monthly follow-up by an assigned case manager for up to six months.

Eligible veterans can print a gold card here: <http://www.dol.gov/vets/goldcard/revisedgoldcard5.pdf>

Stop by Job Service and speak with our Local Veterans Representative.

## Eastern Montana Veterans Stand Down



Thank you to all who donated and/or volunteered at the 2nd Annual Eastern Montana Veterans Stand Down held in Sidney on September 17th.

59 Veterans were served; 20 veterans were certified as homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

Stand Down 2012 will be held in Miles City.

*Stand Down 2011,  
held in Sidney,  
served 59 Veterans  
and had the  
assistance of 80  
volunteers.*

## Website Launched: My Next Move for Veterans

My Next Move for Veterans ([www.MyNextMove.org/vets](http://www.MyNextMove.org/vets)) is designed for U.S. veterans who are current job seekers. Veterans will find a simple and quick search engine where they enter their prior military experience (branch of service and military occupation code or title) and link to the information they need to explore information on civilian careers and related training, in-

cluding information they can use to write resumes that highlight related civilian skills. In addition, My Next Move for Veterans contains a link to an online assessment, the O\*NET Interest Profiler, which provides results comparable to the Strong Interest Inventory being used in the new Transition Assistance Program (TAP). Veterans who have not received an interest assess-

ment as part of TAP can access and take this interest assessment online from a link in the lower right-hand corner of My Next Move for Veterans or directly at:

<http://www.mynextmove.org/explore/ip>.



## Job Fair Coming in February

Save the date!

A Job Fair is scheduled for **Thursday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>** from **3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.** at the Eastern Plains Event Center (EPEC) in Glendive. A Job Fair provides a venue for employers of all kinds to meet with prospective employees, distribute information about their businesses, and recruit candidates who have required skills, abilities, and interests. The Job Fair will be especially beneficial to those employers who

have been experiencing recruitment challenges. All area businesses and organizations are invited to set up a table, visit with job seekers, accept applications or resumes, and conduct initial interviews. The goal of the event is to facilitate employers and qualified workers finding one another.

Businesses and organizations that provide service to job seekers are, of course, included in the employing community. Their presence at this Job Fair

will be doubly important, offering not only possible employment, but also making available those services that bridge the gap between looking for and gaining work.

The Job Fair will benefit everyone involved ~ employers, service providers, and potential employees ~ mark February 2, 2012 on your calendar and plan to participate! More info will be coming out soon.

## Montana's Minimum Wage Will Increase \$.30 January 1, 2012

Montana workers earning minimum wage will see an **increase** from \$7.35 per hour to **\$7.65 per hour** on January 1, 2012. "As the cost of living continues to increase, the law passed by Montanans in 2006, helps those making minimum wage keep their head above water," said Labor Commissioner Keith Kelly.

Initiative 151, enacted by Montana voters in 2006, proposed raising the state's minimum wage to be the greater of either the current state or federal minimum wage. It

also added an annual cost-of-living adjustment to the state minimum wage.

The increase in the minimum wage is based upon any increases in the W.S. City Average Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumer for All Items (CPI) from August of the preceding year to August of the year in which the calculation is made. This amount is to be rounded to the nearest five cents.

The current 2011 minimum wage rate is \$7.35 per hour. Based on

an increase in the CPI of 3.8% from August, 2010 to August, 2011, the calculation used for determining the minimum wage rate for 2012 is as follows:

$\$7.35 \times .038\% = \$0.28$ , rounded to \$0.30

Information relating to Montana's minimum wage may be downloaded from DLI's website at [www.mtwagehourbopa.com](http://www.mtwagehourbopa.com)

**Get all required posters from Job Service - at no cost.**



### Happy Holidays from the Glendive Job Service!

Back Row:  
Lonnie Cross, Shannon Kadrmas, Dawn Guenzi

Front Row: Darla Handran, Matt Hull

## JSEC - A Community Asset

The Job Service Employer Committee (JSEC) is a powerful tool that ensures effective use of your tax dollar, influences how Job Service works, taps into educational and training resources, impacts programs to meet business needs, and provides a statewide network among employers.

The Glendive JSEC serves as an advisory board to Job Service, which has been proven to be a productive and effective public/private partnership. JSEC basically is local business people identifying and addressing the needs of their fellow business

community members. The JSEC also serves as the advisory board to the Business Management Program at Dawson Community College. Members provide input to ensure the courses taught adequately prepare students for the real world of work.

JSEC in Glendive sponsors low-cost, educational seminars right in town, saving travel and per diem dollars. JSEC youth activities include supporting Jobs for Montana's Graduates and hosting a Career Fair every other year. In addition, JSEC awards up to three \$500 scholarships to graduating seniors who intend to

further their education at Dawson Community College fall semester following graduation. The scholarships are offered to Circle, Dawson County High, Richey and Wibaux County High School students. To enhance networking among business, individuals and public sector, JSEC sponsors the JSEC Classic Golf Tournament annually.

The Glendive JSEC has been an asset to the community for 23 years and continually seeks ways to contribute to the economic well-being of Glendive and the surrounding area. If you would like to become a member of this

productive and useful group, please contact MaryAnn Vester, Chair 377-9409, Lonnie Cross, Job Service Manager 377-3314 ext 203, Darla Handran, JSEC Coordinator 377-3314 ext 206, or any member.



### JSEC Members

Pat Cunningham  
Dawson Community College

Jerry Jimison  
City of Glendive

Barb Stairs, JSEC Vice-Chair  
Mid-Rivers Communications

MaryAnn Vester, JSEC Chair  
Dawson Community College

Jim Germann  
Glendive School District

Jeffrey Kirby  
BNSF Railway

Stacey Stanfill  
BOSS Office

Tim Wall, JSEC Treasurer  
Community First Bank

Nick Haag  
Montana Dakota Utilities

Joetta Percy  
Glendive Medical Center

Kim Trangmoe  
Chamber of Commerce & Ag

Lonnie Cross  
Job Service Manager

Darla Handran  
JSEC Coordinator & Newsletter Editor

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Interested in becoming a member of JSEC?  
Call JSEC Chair, MaryAnn Vester at 377-9409 or any JSEC member.